

# California GARDEN

10c



*Photo by J. W. Hubbard*

## Just a Piece of Old Brass

(See Story on Page 3)

**JULY 1936**

Grandma's Ear  
Drops

*By Bertha M. Thomas*

Agathis Robusta

*By K. O. Sessions*

Begonia Club  
Notes

*By Eva Kenworthy Grey*

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# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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## The San Diego Floral Association

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Meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 7:30 P. M.

## News From England

80 Osborne Road,  
West Hartlepool,  
Co. Durham,  
England.

June 3, 1936.

To the Readers  
of California Garden:

It is such a long time since I wrote you that I thought a line or two would not be out of place. Through the kindness of a member of your community I am kept in touch with your activities through the medium of the "California Garden."

I am glad to see an increasing interest is being taken in your flower shows, these being one of the best means of keeping a flower-loving public together. You have a climate second to none and have everything in your favor to produce lovely gardens. I am glad to notice that your veteran Miss Sessions is still going strong. Between you and me, I think she must have found some "seeds" of the "Elixir of Youth."

We have had a terrible winter over this side of the Pond. Teeming rain and bitter cold winds from the North Sea. The gardens up here in the north have suffered severely, the constant rains rotting many plants. This means a serious thing to many of the unemployed who look to their gardens for a little help towards the low family exchequer.

As I am writing it is teeming down and has been all day, and intensely cold also. Yesterday we had a hailstorm. This is the worst Spring we have had for many years. The longest day will soon be here (21st) and we have had no summer yet. However, we shall just have to make the best of it and carry on hoping for better weather soon.

I hope your May show has been a great success and that the team work of your loyal stalwarts will be amply repaid. They sure deserve it. I am pleased to see the "Question Box" made use of a great deal. It is a great help to us over here as you will no doubt have seen in the English papers sent you from time to time. I think I cannot close this epistle better than by quoting Coraline B. Tuttle:

"May the peace of lovely gardens and flowers be with each and every one of you."

Sincerely yours,  
W. C. King.

## New Members

Miss Helen Trevy, San Diego.  
F. J. Lantry, San Diego.  
M. J. Pope, San Diego.  
A. Weeks, San Diego.  
Emanuel Taylor, San Diego.  
Mrs. J. Woolf, San Diego.  
Mrs. B. Sonnenschmidt, San Diego.  
Mrs. Sarah Moon Morgan, Los Angeles.  
Mrs. A. S. Cooper, Riverside, Calif.  
Mr. C. Allan Smith, Coronado, Calif.

Mr. Wayne A. Jones, La Jolla, Calif.

Mrs. Clara K. Meyer, Peoria, Illinois.

Mrs. H. B. Bear, Allentown, Penn.  
Mrs. Lincoln Rogers, Fallbrook, Calif.

Mrs. I. J. Thornton, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Wm. Tower, Corona, Calif.

Mrs. M. Mead, San Diego, Calif.

Mrs. W. D. Heathcote, San Diego, Calif.

Mrs. Alice McIlraith, San Diego, Calif.

## Report of the Treasurer of the San Diego Floral Association, for the year 1935-1936.

### Receipts—

Cash on hand	
June 15, 1935, \$	39.35
Memberships collected	396.00
Subscriptions collected	141.83
Advertisements	136.95
Flower Shows	583.72
	\$1197.83
<b>Disbursements—</b>	
Publishing Magazine	\$521.31
Expense of shows	262.05
Trophies	102.86
Salaries	220.00
Box rent and postage	31.39
Bank charges	10.33
	\$1147.96

Cash on hand 48.87  
Erskine J. Campbell,  
Treasurer.

Attest:  
W. A. Stubbs, Auditor.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN for July, 1936



## Report of the Secretary of the San Diego Floral Association . . . for the year 1935-1936

The year has passed so rapidly, I felt there was little to report for the year's activities, but when I reviewed the "California Garden" issues and my books, I was amazed at the work the Association had accomplished and the many varied interesting meetings we had held.

Just to refresh your memories, we opened the year with Professor Frank Hardy Lane, who read his play "The Fantasy of the Flowers" which was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience. Mrs. Larson of Carlsbad spoke of the cultivation of lilies and both Mr. Jerabek and Mr. Kelly stressed the planting and care of vines for winter blooming.

Mr. John H. Morley, Superintendent of Balboa Park spoke to us at the August meeting of the rearranging and replanting of the Exposition area for the 1936 Exposition, giving due credit to all who so generously gave of their supply of trees, plants and shrubs, and efforts to secure rare specimens for the Park. Mr. Requa, the Architectural Director of the Exposition illustrated his talk with slides and moving pictures comparing the 1915 Exposition with the 1935 one, reminding us that the first Exposition started San Diego on the way to styles of homes famous all over the world for beauty, fitness and individuality, and that the present Exposition developed this style more fully with modern developments. Mr. Bode, the Horticultural Director told of his ambition to place name plates on every tree, shrub and plant, and this we are happy to note he accomplished, much to the pleasure of all. Also Mr. Bode stressed the starting of an arboretum, and has already placed many trees and plants in the area he thinks most suitable, near the Palace of Electricity and Water.

Mr. Jerabek brought forty-two flowering specimens of *Acacia* grown in San Diego, giving their names and habits, also where to be found, and the following week, Mr. T. Wayland Vaughn of the Scripps

Institution of Oceanography sends in thirteen more and different kinds grown in La Jolla. Mr. Jerabek also told of the cactus and aloes and agave gardens, of their growth and development and of the many new and rare specimens received and planted.

Mr. Frank Gander of the Natural History Museum brought a great many specimens of native shrubs, telling of their adaptability to the home garden, showing many slides and pressed specimens to illustrate his most interesting talk.

We were most fortunate in having Mr. and Mrs. Cockrells of Boulder, Colorado with us, who illustrated with slides and moving pictures, the finding and developing of the Red Mexican sunflower.

We had Miss Akemi Togo, a most charming dainty lady with her interesting containers and chalk talk on Japanese arrangement of flowers and their adaptability to the American home.

We always thoroughly enjoy an evening on cacti and succulents with Mrs. Bakkers in charge. Mrs. Bakkers gives most generously of her vast knowledge of these interesting plants. She gave the very elaborate exhibit from the Marston store to the Exposition gardens, also there she created her Desert Moods, so admired by all, epitomizing shifting lights and shadows of the American Desert and representing Dawn, High Noon, Sunset and Night.

The Association members were so happy to have the Exposition Officials give due honor to one of its most famous members, by naming a "Kate O. Sessions Day" last September. One notes her influence on practically every street in San Diego, with her greatest effort perhaps right in Balboa Park. A meeting without Miss Sessions seems unfinished indeed.

The Association held both spring and fall flower shows, the latter in the Palace of Entertainment at the Exposition, which many thought the most beautiful ever held, and our

yearly *Cyclamen Tea*, at the Park Manor. Each of these shows were fully covered in the monthly magazine, so I will not enlarge upon them.

The yearly Garden contests were held and Mr. and Mrs. Ogden after three successive years' contest receive the coveted Floral Association garden plaque for a permanent place in their garden, and later graciously opened their garden to members and friends. Other gardens visited included the Misses Schwieder, Mrs. Evans, the Wangenheim, and a most enjoyable day at the beautiful mountain home of Mrs. Amy Strong at Mt. Woodson.

We greet and welcome all new members who have joined with us the past year. Their membership represents real homemakers and garden lovers.

We pause to respect the memory of the many who have left us. I will mention Mr. Sydney Hill, so long our faithful Secretary and who was Secretary of Balboa Park at the time of his passing. Of Mr. Pete Ross a great garden lover and outstanding educator. Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell, wife of our Treasurer and one of our Charter members, some thirty years ago. Most of us have enjoyed the many trips to the Alpine home of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell when the gorgeous tulips were in bloom and all were welcome when the Flag was out. The very sudden passing of Mr. Schwartzfager who has given more than three entire years of his time at his hobby in placing thousands of specimens of the fuchsia in the Park and had worked out, with the Officials, a Fuchsia Day, naming for the duration of the Exposition, a specimen fuchsia for some person in San Diego who had made a real contribution to civic beauty. It was fitting that the day was consummated just as he had planned, a week from the day he died, and which was on his birthday.

All are mindful of the gratitude we owe to our splendid leader and President, who so successfully carries through these many and varied activities and who has the interests of the Association in mind 365 days in the year. Let each of us pledge

(Continued on Page 8)



# Just a Piece of Old Brass . . . The June Meeting

By FRED W. HERBERT

"What a beautiful vase," said our neighbor, the Artistic Soul, "and how unique!"

"Yes," said I, soberly, "Uny-Q and Anty-Q."

"What do you mean—'Anty-Q'?" said she.

"Well," said I, "if I tell you that I paid twelve dollars for that small piece of brass, I know that you will be more interested than ever, for besides being an Artistic Soul, you are also a thrifty soul, and twelve dollars is a lot of money—these days. You have observed that it is unique. Examine it closely. See those little scratches, tiny nicks and very slightly battered spots that have been put there by the hand of time, all testifying to its antiquity? Yet a step or two away these slight marks disappear and you have the beautiful shapely thing of gleaming metal which caught your eye and appealed to your artistic sense. Those almost imperceptible scars give it the added charm of age. It is a bit rustic, but graceful withal. At the top, you see, it somewhat resembles the open mouth of an angry goose, and that single hole in the middle of the 'forehead' suggests an eye, as viewed from either side, and carries out the goose-head motif. Is it not clever? If a dealer told you that it was 'an original—handed down from one of the first families of Virginia,' could you not easily envision it gracing milady's dainty dressing table in a dignified colonial mansion? Now," (a bit anxiously), "do you think I paid too much for it?"

Reader, that is the story I insinuated into the head of our artistic friend, and it was mere persiflage. My little vase is no antique, in the accepted meaning. I will, of course, disillusion my neighbor. I just wanted to see if the object itself would carry out the story. Judging from my friend's attitude of complete credulity I believe my vase has the antique earmarks.

The photograph on the cover tells the real tale. It was just a piece of old brass, known technically as a

hame-knob, a decoration on the hame of a set of harness—the brass knobs you used to see sticking up on the shoulders of the brewery horses (and will again, no doubt, since they are lately revived). This one had come loose from the wood and was lying by the roadside, very dirty and very tarnished. The "goose's eye" is simply the screw-hole through which it was fastened to the hame. The knob part, which became the bowl of our vase, was round, but it was the work of only a few minutes to place it in a wooden vise and hammer the bottom sufficiently flat to make it stand firmly. A little lead poured into the bowl and it is almost impossible to topple it. An hour or two of filing with a moderately rough steel file removed the tarnish and (except for a few deep scratches that support the antique story) left the surface slightly roughened, bringing out a rich, burnished finish.

My intention was to present it to my young daughter for her bedroom, but as I worked on it and the beautiful glistening finish came to light, my wife claimed it. My wife is fastidious and tasteful, so when she gave it a very prominent position in our living room, and later I saw issuing from its golden throat the very breath of spring in the form of three sprigs of cherry blossom, I knew that the piece of old brass had become a thing of beauty.

So the next time you see a piece of old brass, don't pass it by just because it is old and tarnished. Pick it up and study its possibilities, as vase, paperweight or ornament. Make it over into an objet d'art and concoct your own story of its great antiquity!

The dainty beauty and vivid colors of the Miniature Dahlia and the Pom-pom Dahlia are becoming more and more recognized and because of their adaptability to the average home arrangement and their profusion of blossoms,

Mrs. G. G.

L. H. Bailey, benign authority on what a plant is and its relations too, is evidently a real person. What's more he is a warm friend of Miss Sessions and so must be something like her. He came to San Diego in June, in person, and visited palms and agaves and their guardian, Miss Sessions, and said some very pleasant things about horticultural progress here. Mr. Bailey knows, too. He is the author of "Hortus," the complete and satisfying last word on plant identification.

The Erytheas, sturdy big trunked fan palms, actually natives of our north American continent, were the particular objects of Mr. Bailey's attention. He made a trip to Cape St. Lucas to see E. Brandegeei at its origin. This palm was discovered by Brandegeei at the Cape in the early Nineties. Miss Sessions was with him. She planted seeds of it and Erytheas armata and edulis, also natives of Mexico, and set out the plants in San Diego. In 1936 Mr. Bailey found his studies greatly aided by these palms of Miss Sessions' scattered about the city and particularly grouped in Balboa park in the fascinating palm grove just north of the former rose garden at the Laurel street entrance.

Bailey also noted specimens of Washintonias, natives of California southern deserts and Mexico, growing in San Diego and he visited the aloe and agave garden inspired by Miss Sessions and planted by the Floral association in Balboa park. His praise of the garden, its purpose, and the fine agave specimens in it brought tears of pride and joy to the eyes of Miss Sessions and a good many association members.

A devoted review of Bailey's visit by Miss Sessions was the star attraction of the June meeting of the association although there was plenty to interest on the program. C. I. Jerabek gave a very entertaining description of his plant vacation to San Francisco and back. (If he noticed anything not connected with plants, he didn't mention it.) Mrs. Ward read a pleasing review of the year's accomplishments of the asso-

(Continued on Page 8)

# News from Northern California . . .

Dear Floral Family:

Stretching imagination to the breaking point could never convince anyone that I was a horticulturist or a literary light but in answer to requests for articles for California Garden, again I am just going to write you occasionally of the interesting gardens or plants I see. You all know that what I lack in knowledge I make up in real appreciation and enthusiasm.

Never since my terrible case of love at first sight of an Iris garden, have I had such a thrill as my introduction to the primrose gardens of Mr. Hugh B. Logan at Inverness, a little colony tucked away on the tree and fern clad hills bordering the east side of Tamales Bay. This can be reached in less than an hour from San Francisco by way of Sausalito. A friend had casually remarked that I could see a pretty primrose garden if I asked for Mr. Logan's gardens when I visited Inverness so I was not prepared for the heavenly spot we found when we drove up the mountain road lined on each side with yellow broom and blue ceonothus and entered the trellis gate to be greeted by the very courtly gentleman Mr. Hugh Logan.

When I told him I would like to see some primroses, he asked me what type I was interested in and I had to blurt out that I did not know a thing about them, having visions of those lovely lavender things in Alfred Robinson's lath-garden when we had the wisteria teas, and some yellow and red ones in gardens here and there. Also for years I had read of them and sung of them and heard about "primrose paths" but can not see the whyness of that phrase. Right there began my first lesson on "Primroses, Cowslips and Oxlips." Locking his gate against visitors who might be sorely tempted by the many rare things in his house and rock gardens, Mr. Logan conducted us down the mountain to a bosky dell such as

the fairy Ariel would choose to sleep in the cowslip's bell. About a half acre was cleared in a virgin forest where a tiny stream babbled through the middle and there was just enough shade and just enough sunlight. Here in their carefully made beds I was introduced to primroses of the oldest English, Scotch and Cornish families to Orientals from all parts of Asia and Southern Europe.

There are two kinds of primroses. One grows single on a stem from the heart of the plant and the other, a polyanthus bearing its flowers in a cluster on the end of the stem. In the English beds were specimens of varieties which have been familiar to that section from the beginning of time. Here were precious double primroses that looked like tiny roses. "Hose over Hose" was a favorite of the English countryside. It is a perfect flower within another, sort of like a pair of stockings cupped together. Likewise was Jack in the Green or Galagaskins similar to Hose in Hose excepting that the green calyx set in the heart of the second flower. Bear's Ears, well loved by early English poets and writers, has an unusual shaped leaf, hence its name. Here was a very large yellow single primrose called Mary Lewis which is an everblooming variety. Evelyn Arkwright, from South England has very long stems from eight to ten inches and the yellow blossom with white eyes are from two to three inches across. These seemed to be the parents to many of the thousands of improved varieties planted in adjoining beds. There were beds of blues in all its varying shades with large and small orange or yellow eyes. Reds from deepest oxblood to pale pinks and of course all shades of orange and yellow. Nearer to the stream were planted the Asiatic primroses that lifted their heads two and three feet in the air, in shades that seemed a bit more exotic than the others. The

flowers are in large whorles graduated up the stem. Mr. Logan said that he once planned to own a specimen of every primrose known but when the field of Asia opened up he gave up in despair.

When I used to read about cowslips in Shakespear I could never visualize the flower, as the name did not bring flower pictures to my mind, but now that I know a cowslip when I meet it, I can well understand the poet's ecstasy. Mr. Logan has cowslips in many colors. They grow on long stems and the flowers are in large umbles sheathed with puffy green calyxes. Oxlips are very similar with less green calyx as far as I could tell. One lovely thing he called Old Rose Oxlip, soft rose and yellow shade with a scent as sweet as violets. This blooms all of the time. In fact he has to cut it back in the fall to force it to rest. I may have the beautiful lavender Capitata in the wrong class but I think it too was an Oxlip. It has a large head of tight clustered flowerlets on a very long stem twelve or fifteen inches high.

Mr. Logan thinks that most of the primroses can be grown in any climate with reasonable care. He says their roots "are as long as a Scotch sermon," so beds must be prepared accordingly. Dig deep, mix plenty of well rotted cow manure and peat moss and water moderately. Some of the Orientals need a great deal of water so that factor must be reckoned with. They multiply fast and can be raised from seed or divisions. I am now looking for the 1933 Report of Primula Conference published by the English Royal Horticulture Society because I am going to plant primroses with my Iris this fall and want to know more about them. Don't you?

I will be prowling around gardens of the West Coast all summer and if you like my letters let the Editor know. I sent a story to a friend for criticism once and have never heard from her since. Draw your own conclusions! Do not follow her example but let us know if you do, or do not like my letters.

Sincerely yours for better gardens,  
Coralinn Tuttle.

# Grandma's Ear Drops . . .

By BERTHA M. THOMAS

Maybe you remember the name from your childhood days.

Now they are Fuchsias—and in California they are often shrubs and even trees, instead of the little pot plants grandma had "back east." Because of their popularity we are interested in where they came from and how their numbers have increased to hundreds of varieties grown here and nearly two thousand listed in a Check List just received by members of the American Fuchsia Society—a booklet containing names of Species and Varieties hybridized—also Originators and dates of European introductions, etc.

The original Species come from Tropical America (why therefore should they not be our favorites) twenty-six now being listed by large dealers, with the list continually growing.

They vary from plants 2 feet to 15 or 20 if you will be generous with your food, water and care, and blooms vary from 3-16 to 4 inch diameter—also a large assortment of colors.

From these have come our garden varieties not only by hybridizing but "sports" often appear—we now have in our garden a large double lavender plant which insists in producing double white blossoms on one branch.

Isis is one of the comparatively new tiny species, flowers are normally about 1-8 inch across, a rich red, and plant grows new canes to 4 to 5 feet.

Pumilla, Macrophylla, Bacillaris, Reflexus, Thymifolia and Virgata have tiny flowers. Alpestris, Corymbiflora (red and white) Excorticata, Arborescens, Magellanica and Lycivides are tree like.

Serratifolia is medium growth and we think it the handsomest of any Fuchsia.

There are also trailing kinds, Pro-cumbens and Magellanica Prostrata.

All Fuchsias like shade, moderately heavy acid soil, plenty of water and vigorous pruning. They will do

well in considerable sun if the roots are protected by near growing plants—in fact travelers tell us they usually grow in full sun in natural habitat where of course thickly surrounded by other vegetation.

They are subject to Thrip and Red Spider in San Diego's dry hot summer—this is easily controlled by spraying occasionally with Volk. But they require frequent small doses of some fertilizer because of the drain on their strength by the multitude of blooms. And do not dig around the roots—they grow usually very shallow. One can prune them in any desired effect, and as a hedge they are beautiful, especially Triphyla. Just now they are in full dress parade and will continue for 2 or more months—the hot weather diminishing size and number of blossoms although a few varieties contradict such a statement. Fully half of our great number bloom all year round—almost all will usually have a few blooms at all times.

As to the varieties—one must "take your pick," all colors, all shades, all sizes. For years the dream of all Fuchsia lovers was a pure white. Now we have even that, through persistent work of the Evan's Garden at Santa Monica.

Most all plants develop seed pods—all the way through sizes big, little, medium, and very plentiful. These are good to eat (if you like them). We were told they would make jelly and since we are always ready to try things once, we did, but we now say "don't."

Prof. O. E. Essig, Berkeley, California, is the compiler of the late Check List—he is an ardent enthusiast-lecturer, photographer, etc., on the subject, and he wishes anyone having a variety not listed to forward name and specimen to him.

The Society is young in years but Officers and large numbers of members are more numerous in the Bay Region, but Southern California members always receive invitations to meetings and lectures.

# Agathis Robusta

By K. O. Sessions

The Agathis robusta tree of New Zealand is as famous in size and beauty as our California giant Redwood tree, but is being rapidly destroyed for its fine timber for lumber. Its slow growth and long life make it seem impractical to reforest the country with it.

It produces a fine resin used in making the Dammara varnish and much resin is collected from the soil where it has accumulated in the course of centuries. The tree is called the kauri pine, but it does not resemble a pine. Its foliage is a fine glossy green-leaf of fair size. There are two plants of this famous tree in San Diego that show plainly its general habit. One is on Elm Street, the north side between 3rd and 4th ave. It is the tree with a straight and clean trunk without any branches for some height, as the tree grows tall rather than bushy and spreading. The other is on Kalmia Street, between 4th and 3rd ave., about 75 feet from 4th on the south side of the street. It also has the straight and bare trunk for some height to an erect growing lateral branch. The trees were planted about 35 years ago.

A specimen tree over 40 years old is in Corona, California, that is very large and bearing cones which fall to pieces when ripe and dry, and unlike the pine tree cone which remains after seed has fallen and is excellent fuel for the open fireplace.

The Agathis robusta can be grown from cuttings of matured young growth in the spring with bottom heat.

# Tipuana Speciosum

The large Tipuana speciosum tree at K. O. Sessions' Nursery in Pacific Beach is coming into full bloom, and is well worth observing. It is a native of Brazil and is an evergreen, excepting for four weeks in April and May when it sheds its leaves for the new crop that are all in place by June first.



# Question Box . . .

By R. R. McLEAN

QUESTION: How can I get rid of mushrooms and toadstools that keep coming up in my lawn?

S. L. G.

ANSWER: To kill mushrooms or toadstools in your lawn, soak infested spots with copper sulphate or with Bordeaux mixture. Iron sulphate used at the rate of one pound to a gallon and a half of water and poured over the toadstool area will also be effective. Probably less injury to the lawn itself will be caused by Bordeaux mixture, which contains copper sulphate and lime, than by either copper sulphate or iron sulphate alone. You can buy dry Bordeaux mixture at any place where spray materials are sold. Dilute it at the rate of one pound to five gallons of water.

QUESTION: I am sending you a sample of a rather bad weed in my lawn. It is rapidly taking the lawn. Can you suggest any remedy?

K. L.

ANSWER: The sample sent proved to be mouse-eared chickweed, a common pest of lawns. One of two materials, iron sulphate or ammonium sulphate, or a combination of both, can be used to control this pest as well as others of a similar growth-habit, dandelions and plantains, for example. One pound of iron sulphate crystals (copperas) is dissolved in one and one-half gallons of water and sprinkled over the infested area, this amount covering about 100 square feet. The crystals may be somewhat difficult to dissolve but if covered with boiling water will melt readily. The amount of water can be varied more or less as some formulas call for as little as one pound to four gallons of water.

If ammonium sulphate is to be used, wet the lawn down and then sprinkle a small amount of the dry chemical on the chickweed patches and let stand for a day. Then follow with a thorough irrigation to wash the chemical down into the soil. The grass may be burned to some extent but the damage

will be only temporary.

A combination of the two chemicals is applied as follows: Dissolve one-half pound of iron sulphate crystals in nine ounces of water at boiling temperature. Stir this solution while hot into nine pounds of finely sifted sand. Use an earthen or wooden vessel and with a wooden paddle stir quickly. A few days in the sun, stirring occasionally, will dry the mixture sufficiently. Then add a pound or two of sulphate of ammonia salts, mixing well, and use dry at the rate of four or five ounces to the square yard. Any or all of the treatments indicated above may have to be repeated a few times to kill out heavily infested chickweed patches in lawns.

QUESTION: Enclosed a leaf of clover with some mysterious ailment. What is it and what can be done for it? I put some sulphur and nico-dust on the earth in the pot the plant is in but still ever so often it gets this way. I have a lot of plants here and there in the garden that seem to have the same trouble, canary bird vines, morning glories and sweet peas.

Enclosed also two leaves of calendulas grown in a little lathhouse and just put out in the open. What ails them? Your advice will be most heartily welcomed.

Mr. F. H.

ANSWER: The leaves were rather far gone when received by the writer, hence no definite diagnosis can be given here. However, what symptoms that were still visible indicated either mildew or thrips injury, or both. For mildew, sulphur dusted directly on the affected plants will be effective as a control measure. Sulphur should not be applied to plants when the weather is excessively hot, this is, from ninety degrees up.

If thrips are abundant on the plants—small, slender, quick-moving insects—dusting with nicodust is a specific. However, this should be dusted directly on the plants instead of on the ground underneath. Make sure, also, that the nicodust is fresh.

# Garden Visits

By Ada Perry

There's a dreamy ditty about Basin street in New Orleans, but no one has contrived one about Nutmeg street in San Diego where the Misses Kenyon and Dr. J. B. Smith live. Perhaps the difficulty is a rhyme with Nutmeg. Another is ye correspondent's infrequent knack with meters. The crux of the matter is that the Floral association and members of the Cosmopolitan dinner club had a poetry inspiring Sunday afternoon visiting these gardens in their June bloom. Roses, vines, shrubs and cacti were agreeably in bloom and the weather was fine. The Misses Kenyon served punch and cakes and Dr. Smith came down from his manse and delighted callers with anecdotes and cultural experiences of which he has a good many.

Both gardens are of the hilltop variety, being located above Switzer canyon. Fruits in quantity as well as flowers, and it is a wonder Miss Zulu and Miss Haidee Kenyon and Dr. Smith ever venture into the outside world at all, they have so much to interest at their homes. Delicate design and artistic effect are features of the Kenyon garden, since both sisters are artists. Dr. Smith leans more to the intellectual and has dedicated his hilltop to a sweeping terrace leading to a flat outdoor room, carpeted with grass, walled with trees and terminated by a huge outdoor fireplace of stone, the whole

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# Begonia Club Notes . . .

Collected by EVA KENWORTHY GREY, Pacific Beach

Peabody, Mass., May 31, 1936.

Well the Mexican begonias were a great disappointment! The native begonias do not grow in the vicinity of Mexico City, for it is in the mountains, 8000 feet above sea level. One must go down to the slope nearly to Vera Cruz to find them. That would take a week at least which I did not have at my disposal. Also it was just at the end of the dry season and I was told they would be dormant at that time. Midsummer would be the time, after the rains started.

The begonias I saw in the gardens were familiar, but scarce. Multiflora rosea was the favorite, and occasionally I saw a Haageana or Feastii. We were taken into the Morrow garden at Cuernavaca where Lindberg courted Anna Morrow, and there I saw several large jars, perhaps three feet tall filled with large plants of the Multiflora rosea, full of flowers of course. It was that day my camera went "bust." Cuernavaca is only 4000 feet high, so it is a favorite summer resort for people who find the altitude of Mexico City too bracing. It is a little old fashioned town, quite hilly, the narrow streets lined with adobe houses painted pink, blue, green or white.

The Morrow home is quite simple, one story high, the wall right on the sidewalk. The four windows have strong iron grilles over them. The door is quite high and at one

corner there is a low tower. It is no different from the others on the same street. But inside it is lovely. I think there are not many rooms in the house—it is mostly garden. The dining room is walled on three sides, the fourth is open. We were shown Mrs. Morrow's bedroom, very simple. The garden is divided into rooms. We went down some steps with plants on them in pots, turned right through a doorway into a space about 20x40 in the center of which was a swimming pool and the fifteen foot walls were hung with blue plumbago. Down another flight of steps bordered with banana trees and other fruits, to another little garden room. Through another door in the side wall, and there was the "secret garden," quite small, at the end was a little porch room with chairs.

We were all entertained at the American Embassy in Mexico City where the Morrows lived. Josephus Daniels is now the Ambassador. It is a large house with broad veranda and high Doric columns; the long flight of steps leading to a lawn with great trees. There was a concert by the police band, in national costume, native singers and of course tea. The night before we left there was a dinner at the Regis Hotel and I was fortunate enough to be placed by the side of the Ambassador. He is a jolly old man, full of funny stories and a hearty laugh, and I enjoyed the evening thoroughly.

**Dewey Kelly**

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## Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 2)

to aid her in helping the new members with their garden problems, bringing new friends to the meetings, new specimens to be identified and discussed, new articles for the magazines, new advertisers too for it is through their advertising we find much we need in new equipment and suggestions for our pest controls. Let us keep in mind Miss Sessions' plea for a Heather drive in Balboa Park and the mile, or more, of New Zealand Christmas Trees at Pacific Beach, and the Association will not want for interesting meetings the coming year.

We are now all enthusiastic for the Fall show which will be held the last of August in the Palace of Entertainment in Balboa Park.

Respectfully submitted.

Mary E. Ward, Secretary.

## Begonia Notes

(Continued from Page 7)

Flowers are scandalously cheap in Mexico. I bought a dozen calla lilies from an Indian woman on the roadside for ten cents, our money. The purple cattleya orchids, in a twist of lavender waxed paper just matching their color are sold on the streets by vendors as "Mayflowers." I bought eighteen for fourteen cents.

We were royally entertained not only by the Mexico City Garden Club, but by the Government. They guarded us like royalty. Of course it would be a very black eye for them if a party of women, from thirty-two states, had any trouble, so they saw to it that we had none. There was a strike in progress and some bombing had been reported, but we saw none of it. An armored train proceeded ours and another followed, each with machine guns.

The car next to our engine was full of soldiers, and two officers walked through the train occasionally. Several government officers were with our motor car line of sixty cars, and everything was serene and we had a grand time. But no begonias! "BESS."

## THE GARDENER'S FIRST YEAR.

By Alfred Bates

(Longmans, Green & Co., N. Y., 1936; \$2.00)

Good, well-written gardening books for children ought to be in heavy demand, but have been curiously slow in making their appearance and even now are few and hard to find. The present well-printed volume is attractive in size and is full, but not too full, of an excellent selection of well-arranged material, simply and yet most pleasantly written in a manner to be enjoyed as well as understood by any young gardener ambitious to become a good one.

Such chapters as "What the Flower Is," "How the Seed is Made," "The Real Names of Plants," "Garden Books," "How New Plants Came to Us," and "Opinions," are especially interesting and well done. In his own childhood days your reviewer would have been fairly bewitched by a book full of such matters as this, but nothing of the sort was to be had—a great pity, for the treasured plant catalogues were a poor substitute, and many sad disasters and much blundering into unsound horticultural habits came about as a consequence.

Mr. Bates is so obviously genuine and has on the whole performed so efficiently what he set out to do, that it is regrettable to have to point out one quite serious flaw. We cannot imagine the grounds for the author's statement that he follows the Continental system of Latin in his recommended pronunciations of botanical names. Instead of that, they are, alas, neither one thing nor the other, not fish nor fowl, but an incredible mixture without rhyme, reason, or discoverable authority to support them. Surely no Continental Latinist would ever say im-peer-i-a'-lis, sul-few-re-us, lan-se-o-la'-ta, a-je-r-a'-tum. Again, why an-te-ri-num, but mar-e-te'-mum; ke-lo'-se-a, but sen-taw'-re-a; and hi'-brid-us on p. 131, yet hib'-ri-da on p. 205. These instances could be multiplied almost indefinitely. This part of the book is carelessly done and hurts it very much. Otherwise the descriptive list of garden flowers which

## June Meeting

(Continued from Page 3)

ciation and puffed every one up a bit at getting so much done. Directors were elected in a brief ceremony, the names standing as for last year with the exception of Frederick Jackson replacing Alfred Mitchell, whose time is much curtailed. The treasury report was read and apparently reassured all.

Then there was a lively plant drawing with more than enough to go around and very tempting specimens waiting for chance to give them new owners. (New idea—why not a plant roulette wheel?)

Names of members passing on during the year were read, kindly, gracious Mrs. Erskine Campbell among them, and all were saddened for these losses in personalities. May the next year be less demanding in this way.

Ada Perry.

## Garden Visits

(Continued from Page 6)

very striking and interesting.

Miss Zulu's and Miss Haidee's jacaranda and scarlet eucalyptus were in bloom and their golden cup of gold and Tecomas. The succulent planted pool with its lovely outlines and the rock walled hill-house were in great form as were the ferns and the flower beds and that charming, flowery lippia lawn. Everybody stayed longer than they should and enjoyed themselves to the utmost, ending by urging the Kenyon sisters to an informal showing of their pictures. Myself, I went back and had another good look at that white moonflower vine on the fence. It wouldn't open even one blossom a single, tiny peep but I thought it was most attractive, something like a baby which clenches its jaws to protect its new teeth from alien gazes.

Remember: Think what the plant will look like five years from now rather than what it looks like now.

bulks large in the concluding half is one of its most useful features.

S. S. B.



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